The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Character is perfectly educated with.—Novis.

WHOLE NO. 1159 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1933 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 23, NO. 16

Labor Advisory Board Insists On Collective Bargaining for All Industrial Recovery Codes

Washington.—The Labor Advisory Board of the National Industrial Recovery Administration at its first meeting reached the definite conclusion that agreements in industry must establish maximum hours, minimum wages, after work conditions should be determined by collective bargaining and that organized labor should be consulted before industry presents proposed agreements to the Recovery Administration.

The evident intention of certain employers' associations to draw up the fair competition codes prescribed by the National Industrial Recovery Law, including vital questions for the welfare of the workers, without consulting organized labor in the industry, made it necessary for the Labor Advisory Board to take prompt action.

In addition to Secretary of Labor Perkins, the board includes William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor; John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers; John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor; Joseph Franklin, president of the International Bollermakers' Union; George L. Berry, president of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union; Leo Wolman, Columbia University economist; Rose Schneiderman, secretary of the Women's Trade Union League; Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and Father Francis Haas, of the Catholic Welfare Council.

Members of the Labor Advisory Board were said to have registered opposition to the labor provisions of the code submitted by the cotton manufacturers' associations calling for a forty-hour week and a $10 minimum wage for Southern mills and $11 for Northern factories. An early public hearing by General Johnson's administration was announced for this code.

The bituminous coal code was reported to be blocked by the inability of the operators of different sections to agree on the labor and wage provisions. It was stated that a number of operators had expressed their willingness to adopt a code for higher wages and shorter hours, but that the Pittsburgh Coal Co., a Mellon holding, and the Rockefeller-controlled Consolidated Coal Co. refused to agree to the plan.

If the bituminous operators refuse to file a code within a reasonable time, the law authorizes President Roosevelt to dictate one and compel its acceptance.

The code submitted by the cast iron pipe manufacturers proposes representing 95 per cent of the industry proposed a 30-hour week with a minimum wage of $2.75 a day in Southern plants and $4.25 in Northern plants.

Public hearings will be held on all the codes by the National Recovery Administration headed by Gen. Hugh S Johnson.

12,540,000 WORKERS ARE JOBLESS, GREEN DECLARES

President of A. F. of L. Says 1,200,000 Idle Have Secured Jobs Since March

Washington.—Although around 1,200,000 jobless have secured work since March, there are still 12,540,000 unemployed, declared William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement on the increase of employment during recent months.

"Slightly more than 1,200,000 persons have gone back to work since March 1st this year, according to the estimate of Federation of Labor estimate based on Government figures," Mr. Green said.

"As indicated a month ago by trade union reports, the gain in May was not so large as that of April.

"In April, rebound from the March crisis was sudden and sharp; also farmers were doing their heaviest hiring of labor for the spring planting season. In all 730,000 went back to work in April and 495,000 in May.

"The employment gain in April, due as it was to the rebound from crisis, could not be taken as indicative an upward trend. Now that gains have continued for a second month, there is more reason to believe that considerations for an uptrend may be forming. The gains in May seem to be about equal to the normal seasonal increases —the first time this has happened in May since depression.

"The following are preliminary figures for our revised and comprehensive estimate: figures for the period from April, 1918, to date will be available later. The figures for March and April this year are higher than our previous estimates because they include unemployed professional workers and other groups not shown in our previous figures.

"Total number of persons unemployed in the United States: March, 1933, 13,770,000; April, 1933, 13,035,000; May, 1933, 12,540,000."

Boards and Experts Are Appointed For Industrial Recovery Measure

President Green of A. F. of L., Lewis, Frey, Franklin and Berry on Labor Board—McGrady, A F. of L. Legislative Agent, Becomes Special Assistant to Johnson—Richberg Made Chief of Legal Division.

Washington.—The ranks of labor, business men and economists were drawn upon in filling executive and advisory positions in the organization which will help Gen. Hugh S. Johnson in his administration of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

The machinery of administration so far developed consisted of a Labor Advisory Board, appointed by Secretary of Labor Francis Perkins, an Industrial Advisory Board, appointed by Secretary of Commerce Roper, and key positions in his administration filled by General Johnson himself.

Members of Labor Board

Members of the Labor Advisory Board appointed by Secretary Perkins are:

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America.

Joseph Franklin, president International Boilermakers' Union.

John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer Metal Trades Department, American Federation of Labor.

George L. Berry, president of the International Printing Pressmen's and Assistants' Union.

Leo Wolman, economist, of Columbia University.

Sidney Hillman, president Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

Father Francis Haas, Catholic Welfare Council.

Rose Schneiderman, secretary Women's Trade Union League.

Industrial Board

Secretary Roper appointed the following to serve on the Industrial Advisory Board:

Austin Finch of Thomasville, N. C., president Thomasville Chair Company and Chairman of a committee of the Southern Manufacturers' Association appointed in connection with the National Industrial Recovery Act.

Edward N. Hurley of Chicago, chairman of the board Hurley Machine Company.

Louis Kirstein, vice president William Filene's Sons Company, Boston.

Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., of New York, president General Motors Corporation.

Walter C. Teagle of New York, chairman of the board Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.

Gerard Swope of New York, president General Electric Company.

William J. Vereen of Moultrie, Ga., cotton manufacturer and former president of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association.

A third board, to be known as the consumers' advisory board, to represent the public, will be appointed later.

McGrady Is Johnson's Assistant

Assistant for Labor—Edward F. McGrady of Washington, legislative representative for many years of the American Federation of Labor.

Chief of Legal Division—Donald R. Richberg of Chicago, attorney for railroad brotherhoods and recognized author on labor and the human factors in industry.

Chief of Research and Planning Division—Dr. Alexander Sachs, economist and adviser to the Lehman Corporation of New York.

General Johnson also appointed a number of deputy administrators who, he explained, will assist him in conducting hearings in which all units of an industry—employers and employes—will be heard on any proposed code.

Secretary of Labor Perkins Stops Philadelphia Hosiery Strike

Asks Union to postpone Walkout Called Against Employers Who Block Workers Right to Organize Under Industrial Recovery Law.

Washington.—Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins requested the American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers in Philadelphia to postpone the general strike called in the non-union shops here by the union as a protest against the refusal of hosiery manufacturers to permit unionization of their plants under the provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

In a telegram to William Smith, secretary-treasurer of the Federation, Secretary Perkins said she had been informed by Leo Wolman, chairman of the Labor Advisory Board of the Industrial Recovery Administration, that if the union would withdraw its strike order the representatives of the Full Fashioned Hosiery Manufacturers' Association, who were at work in Washington on a fair competition code for the industry, would instruct its members to refrain from any attempt to weaken the organization of labor. Secretary Perkins expressed belief that the representatives of the Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers and the manufacturers might get together and adjust their differences without a strike.

Philadelphia.—At the request of Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, officials of the American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers postponed the strike in the non-union hosiery mills a few hours after the strike call was issued. The strike would have involved more than 6,000 workers.

Alexander McKeown, president of the Philadelphia branch of the Hosiery Workers' Union, in giving the reasons for the strike call, said that "while representatives of the non-union manufacturers are in Washington to secure the benefits of the Industrial Recovery Act for themselves we find that in their own mills they are violating the obligations imposed upon them by the provisions in the Act relating to collective bargaining and unionization."

Calling attention to Section 7 of the Recovery Act, which declares that employees shall have the right to organize and bargain collectively without interference, restraint, or coercion of employers, Mr. McKeown added:

"In almost every non-union mill in Philadelphia the old methods of intimidation and improper interference by police and private detectives have been resorted to to scare the workers so they will fail to exercise their rights which the National Recovery Law clearly gives them. We are primarily striking these shops to enforce the law as it relates to self-organization. Some manufacturers have attempted to form subsidiary company unions specifically forbidden by the Act."

LABOR RELIEF KITCHEN GIVES 432,137 MEALS

Jackson, Mich.—The Jackson Federal Labor Relief kitchen closed its doors on June 24. James G. Henley, executive secretary of the Federation and proprietor and publisher of the Square Deal, Jackson's weekly labor paper, said that the city would feed destitute persons after that date.

Since the Federation opened its kitchen 589 days ago, 432,137 meals have been served to hungry men, women and children. The feeding of the city was made possible by generous donations from residents of the city and county. All services in connection with the operation have been gratis, and the kitchen has never had a dollar's worth profit basis.

Mr. Henley said that many destitute women and children have been cared for by the service who had previously gone hungry. Children attending several schools who were not in a position to get their noon lunches because of and all the hungry were fed regardless of race, color or creed, he added, may be resumed in the fall.

Millions of Jobs for Unemployed Created by Public Highways

Washington. — The importance of highways and continued increase of highway construction as a means of furnishing employment to hundreds of thousands of workers was stressed by Thomas M. MacDonald, chief of the United States Bureau of Public Roads, in a statement on the necessity of maintaining a liberal highway policy by both Federal and State governments.

"Investigation, shows that highway transport has become as important a part of our business life that the effects of the depression have not been able generally to restrict highway use, and that only in those States and localities where the depression has most severely affected the value of the staple commodities has an actual decrease of gasoline consumption been recorded," Mr. MacDonald said.

Millions of Motor Vehicles

"The income from special taxes for the use of streets and highways paid through registration fees, license fees and gas taxes, has grown from $180,000,000 in 1921 to $829,381,000 in 1931. Utilization of the more than 24,000,000 motor vehicles provided transportation for totals running into inconceivable and fantastic amounts, but nevertheless reasonably correct.

"These may be approximately expressed as follows:

"One hundred and fifty billion vehicle-miles of private passenger car transportation.

"Twenty-four billion ton-miles of local haulage, transportation and delivery service.

"Eleven billion passenger-miles of bus transportation.

"These 24,000,000 vehicles consume annually about 15,400,000,000 gallons of gasoline, which takes about 385,000,000 oil; 50,000,000 tire casings and 60,000,000 inner tubes.

"They furnish direct employment to 200,000 persons in the manufacture of tires, parts and accessories; 750,000 persons in the operation of gasoline filling stations, etc., and 2,500,000 persons as truck, bus and bus drivers and private chauffeurs.

"They furnish sources of direct revenue to governments amounting to great sums annually from highway taxes and materials, materials and supplies shipped to motor vehicle factories, finished cars and parts, and the refined product of gasoline, oil, tires, parts and accessories.

Volume of Farm Produce

"Public roads form the only avenue for the movement of the produce from

(Continued on Page 2, col. 1)

McDonough to Head Labor Advisory Committee for Federal Public Works

Washington.—Officials of the American Federation of Labor were informed that a Labor Advisory Committee will be appointed for the Public Works and other construction projects authorized by the National Industrial Recovery Law.

President M. J. McDonough of the Building Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor and other officers of the national and international building trades organizations will compose the committee, it was stated.

GOV. FERGUSON VETOES CONVICT PRINTING BILL

Galveston, Texas.—Gov. Miriam Ferguson vetoed the bill which provided that the State Board of Control could contract with the Prison Board to have the State printing done in the Huntsville Penitentiary.

Organized labor fought the bill throughout the entire session of the Legislature, but the representatives of interests persisted in jamming it through both houses. Labor circles believe the measure was the forerunner of others to bring about complete industrialization of the prison system.

Last year the Board of Control arbitrarily attempted to have State printing done at the penitentiary, but was halted by an injunction secured by the Texas State Allied Printing Trades Council.

Governor Ferguson based her veto on Section 21 of Article 16 of the State Constitution which provides that State printing, with a few minor exceptions, shall be done under contract given to the lowest responsible bidder. She said the Constitution could not be repealed by legislative fiat.

MacDonald Backs $20,000,000 Jobless Relief Bond Issue

Sacramento, Calif.—Frank C. MacDonald, State Labor Commissioner, issued a statement urging the voters of the State to adopt the amendment to the State Constitution authorizing the issuance of $20,000,000 unemployment relief bonds. The proposition comes before the voters at a special election.

The bond issue carries the recommendation of the State Unemployment Commission. If the bond issue is approved, State authorities will distribute the proceeds of the issue among cities in the next two years to assist them in caring for the jobless.

The bond issue is also endorsed by the California State Federation of Labor.

Long Beach Rig Builders Win Three Weeks' Strike

Long Beach, Calif.—The three weeks strike of the Rig Builders against the McCloud Construction Company was adjusted by an arbitration committee headed by James C. Coulter, financial secretary of Local Union No. 128 of the Oil Workers. The company agreed to the strikers' requirements, including wages, hours, work conditions and the payment of overtime and transportation.

ST. LOUIS ADOPTS UNION SCALE ON MUNICIPAL WORK

St. Louis, Mo.—The Board of Aldermen of St. Louis passed an ordinance which provides for the payment of the prevailing scale of wages on all city work whether performed by the city as a municipality or let by contract to individuals. The ordinance also provides for the establishment of the eight-hour work day on all public works. Penalties of $50 to $500 are fixed for violation of the ordinance, and each day of violation is declared to be a separate offense.

The ordinance had the endorsement of organized labor in all its branches. It provides that the prevailing rate of wages shall be based upon the standardized building trades rates of pay for city employes, which has been usually interpreted as being the union scale.

Mill Workers End Strike; Arrest of Pickets Blocked

Aurora, Ill.—Some 300 employes of the Aurora Cotton Mills here returned to work after a walkout of ten days in protest against the reduction of wage rates cut 85 per cent over a period of time.

The management agreed not to discriminate against any of the employes on account of their part in the strike.

It was stated that Mr. Walker of the Fox Valley Manufacturers' Association attempted to persuade State Attorney Carbary to deputize many of the strikers as sheriff's deputies to arrest strikers who picketed the mills. But the prosecutor knew the pickets were within their legal rights, for no deputies appeared on the scene.

The strike was settled through the mediation of H. A. Canfield, conciliator from the United States Department of Labor, sent here at the request of the Aurora Trades and Labor Assembly. The wage controversy will be adjusted by Mr. Canfield and the mill management.

TWO PAGES

THIS ISSUE OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE CONSISTS OF TWO PAGES.

Philadelphia Building Trades Merge for United Action

Philadelphia, Pa. — Joseph Richie, American Federation of Labor organizer here, called a meeting of the building trades council of the theater, but the unions to meet the exigencies which it believed will arise under the National Industrial Recovery Law. Twenty-one unions with 40,000 members were represented when they perfected the machinery for the union merger.

SEATTLE OPENS COMPLETE UNION-MADE LIGHT OPERA

Seattle, Wash.—Seattle's summer season of light opera was opened at the Metropolitan Theater with the "Student Prince." Walter Douglas of the Metropolitan Building Company and his associates organized the opera with union labor in every department. Members of the cast belong to the Actors' Equity, and all members of the operatic department belong to organized labor.

Local union labor is not only employed in the presentation of the shows and the operation of the theater, but the stage settings and other properties are made by local union workers and of local materials.

Organized labor of Seattle is enthusiastic over its complete unionization era. Over 100 hundred union wage earners are employed in the venture.

Taylor Heads Washington State Labor Federation

Seattle, Wash.—James A. Taylor was unanimously re-elected at the 29th annual Washington State Federation of Labor convention vote of delegates here. This is Mr. Taylor's fourth consecutive term.

The following vice presidents were elected: Ida M. Peterson, William J. Finn, John C. Yarow, W. J. Bassett-Greed, John Jacobs, Rowland Watson, and H. B. Maxwell. In the seventh district a four-cornered race resulted in no majority, requiring a new election.

GOV. ROLPH VETOES WAGE CUT FOR STATE EMPLOYES

Sacramento, Calif.—Governor Rolph vetoed the bill providing for a wage cut of $5,000,000 for State employes. In official circles it was felt that State wage reductions would reect unfavorably against the principles of the National Industrial Recovery Act which seeks to increase rather than decrease the buying power of the masses.

Lumber Bosses Want Johnson to Recognize Four L Company Union as Bona Fide Labor Organization Under Industrial Recovery Act

Portland, Ore.—Employers in the lumber industry in this region have entered into a conspiracy to have Brig. Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, administrator of the National Industrial Recovery Act, exclude bona fide labor organizations in the determination of a code for the industry and give sole recognition to their own company union of employers and employes known as the Loyal League of Loggers and Lumbermen, popularly called the four L.

Operators of a number of plywood and sash and door factories have been hitherto recognized the Millmen's Union, chartered by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, and employed its members. But in their attempt to evade the clear language of the Industrial Recovery Act the operators declared they would have no further relations with the union and would deal only with the Four L outfit, of which they as employers are members.

The same underhanded practice was carried out by Tacoma employers.

Such action is a typical company union with employers compelling their employes to accept low wage scales set up by this group who have time and time again jeopardized labor standards not only in the lumber industry proper in this section but in the allied building trades industries.

As elaborated in their conferences, these Fascist lumber industry mag-

(Continued on Page 2, col. 6)

Reconstruction Finance Corporation Low Pay on Chattanooga Relief Work Condemned

Commissioner Taylor Says Men Can't Live Decently on One Dollar Per Day for a Three-Day Week

Chattanooga, Tenn. — Zach Taylor, Chattanooga's Commissioner of Streets and Sewers, made a sharp protest to Governor McAlister of Tennessee and Mrs. Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor at Washington, against the starvation wages of $1 per day imposed upon relief workers for services rendered from the relief funds furnished by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Funds from the $3,300,000 loan supplied through the State Highway Department.

"The rate of pay was originally $1.86 per day, based on nine hours," Commissioner Taylor's letter said. "About sixty days ago the day rate was reduced to $1.25, and now we have been notified by the Highway Department of this State that effective June 12 the rate will be reduced to $1 per day.

"In view of the fact that the maximum number of days under the present system a man can work is three days per week, or sixteen days per month, we wish to enter a protest on this reduction for the following reasons:

"One dollar a day is entirely too little for a day's compensation. It also encourages private interests to establish the same rate for private projects. President Roosevelt is now urging that wages be increased, and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation should not take a position in direct opposition to his suggestions.

"As you know commodity prices are going up and if wages are decreased with these advanced prices the men working on these projects cannot buy the necessities of life.

"We respectfully request that if you would try to work out some plan whereby this reduction of wages can be avoided, it will greatly help us."

After Commissioner Taylor's letter was written, the announcement was made that the street laborers' pay would be reduced to 75 cents per day. Mayor Rose was quoted in the Chattanooga Times as declaring that if the city did not accept the 75-cent offer it would use no more Reconstruction Finance Corporation Funds.

FRANK A. DOYLE, GARMENT WORKERS' OFFICIAL, DIES

Atlantic, Mass.—Frank A. Doyle, for twenty-two years secretary-treasurer of the general executive board of the United Garment Workers of America, died at his home here. He became ill about six months. His age was 52.

Mr. Doyle was born in Philadelphia. After his education he became a tailor, clothing cutter and worked at his trade for a number of years. Later he went to Syracuse to live. He was active in the locals of his union in Philadelphia and Syracuse, and in 1913 was elected a member of the general executive board of the United Garment Workers. He belonged to many American Federation of Labor committees and was a delegate to the Federation's annual conventions since 1916.

The burial was in Brookline, Mass.

Green Urges Unorganized Workers To Join Bona Fide Trade Unions And Secure Maximum Benefits Under the Recovery Measure

A. F. of L. President Declares That Higher Wages, Shorter Hours, And Improved Labor Conditions Possible Under the New Act Can Only Be Obtained by Complete Labor Organization and Collective Bargaining—Employers Are Prohibited by Law From Interfering with the Right to Organize—Condemns Company Unions, Which Are Banned by the Recovery Law.

Washington.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, issued a stirring appeal to the unorganized workers of the United States to organize immediately to secure all the rights and benefits to which they are entitled under the operation of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

At the same time Mr. Green sent a special message to the officials of the National and International Unions, the State Federations of Labor, and the City Central Bodies, urging them to inaugurate campaigns to acquaint the workers at once with the fact that maximum wage increases, shorter hours of labor and improved conditions of employment can only be secured through trade union organization and collective bargaining.

"One of the definite purposes of the National Industrial Recovery Act," Mr. Green told the union officials, "is to increase wages and reduce the hours of work and overcome unemployment. Labor cannot expect, and should not expect, that these benefits will be conferred upon them. If they are to be realized, labor must unite, organize and collectively bargain."

The text of Mr. Green's appeal follows:

"Attention! Wage earners and salaried workers, everywhere!

"Do you want higher wages, shorter hours, and improved conditions of employment? Do you want to end unemployment in order to secure these benefits?

"The Government of the United States has established your legal right to organize!

Right to Organize

"No employer and no corporation can, without violating the law, interfere in the exercise of the workers' right to organize and to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.

"Here is the law it was recently passed by Congress and signed by the President. Section 7 A of the National Industrial Recovery Act reads as follows:

"Sec. 7. (a) Every code of fair competition, agreement, and license approved, prescribed, or issued under this title shall contain the following conditions: (1) That employes shall have the right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, and shall be free from the interference, restraint, or coercion of employers of labor, or their agents, in the designation of such representatives or in self-organization or in other concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection; (2) that no employe and no one seeking employment shall be required as a condition of employment to join any company union or to refrain from joining, organizing, or assisting a labor organization of his own choosing; and (3) that employers shall comply with the maximum hours of labor, minimum rates of pay, and other conditions of employment, approved or prescribed by the President.'

Workers Must Unite

"For the first time in the history of the nation has been written into a statute passed by the Congress of the United States a section according workers a legal right to organize and to be protected in the exercise of that right.

"The question now is: Will the unorganized workers of the Nation exercise this legal right to unite with their fellow workers for the purpose of securing higher wages, shorter hours, and improved conditions of employment?

"The door of opportunity is open. Any corporation interfering with the exercise of the right of the workers to join a bona fide labor organization will be violating the law and subject itself to the penalties provided therein.

Collective Barraining Guaranteed

"Subsection B of Section 7 of the Act provides:

"(b) The President shall, so far as practicable, afford every opportunity to employers and employes in any trade or industry or subdivision thereof with respect to which the conditions referred to in clauses (1) and (2) of subsection (a) prevail, to establish by mutual agreement, the standards as to maximum hours of labor, minimum rates of pay, and such other conditions of employment as may be necessary in such trade or industry or subdivision thereof, to effectuate the policy of this title.'

Negotiate Wage Scales

"In plain, simple language, this means that employers and employes will be accorded the fullest opportunity to negotiate wage scales and conditions of employment. In fact, a simple, sound interpretation of this section means that the Government expects employers and workers to negotiate wage agreements through collective bargaining.

Organization Necessary

"How can the workers of the Nation do this unless they are organized? They must organize, as industry is organizing, if they are to receive the full benefits of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

"Through organization, they may select men of their own choosing to represent them in working out industrial codes for the establishment of wages, hours and conditions of employment with their employers.

"Never was such an opportunity presented the workers to organize, to bargain collectively and to be represented by men of their own choosing.

"Through organization, they may secure work, and improved conditions of employment are bound to follow the application of the National Industrial Recovery Act to industry and to labor. The amount of increase in wages and the reduction in the hours of labor which working men and women may secure will depend very largely upon the action of the workers in organizing and in bargaining collectively through their own chosen representatives.

Company Union Condemned

"Subsection A of Section 7 provides that no employe and no one seeking employment shall be required as a condition of employment to join any company union or to refrain from joining, organizing, or assisting a labor organization of his own choosing.'

In the light of this declaration adopted by the Congress of the United States and approved by the President, how can the workers of the Nation identify themselves with company unions? Surely such action would be inconsistent with the provisions of the law.

"We warn the workers against company unions. Corporations are now engaged in an effort to form company unions so that it can be made to appear that industrial codes and collective agreements have been established between employers and employes' organizations. Such action will be a violation of the spirit, if not of the letter of the Act. The company unions formed by employers are nothing more than company controlled instrumentalities through which the corporation negotiates an industrial code and a collective agreement applicable to workers, with itself.

"It is highly unfair and most reprehensible that employers of labor would organize for the purpose of fixing prices and thus enable themselves to enjoy fair profits, and at the same time dominate company unions, control workers, dominate the industrial codes and the wages and conditions of employment through their own owned and controlled company unions.

Join Real Unions

"We appeal to the workers everywhere to join bona fide trade unions. Exercise your American right to organize under the provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act. Have nothing whatever to do with company unions. Unite with your fellow workers in bona fide trade unions and through such unions select men of your own choosing to represent you and to bargain for you to the maximum amount of benefits to which you are entitled under the provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

Labor Can Be Free

"The hour has arrived when labor can be free, free to organize. Congress has established your legal right to organize. Workers everywhere should avail themselves of the opportunity thus presented.

"The National Industrial Recovery Act will mean much to you and your families if you organize into bona fide trade unions.

"IT WILL MEAN LITTLE IF YOU FAIL TO JOIN.

"In the name of Organized Labor I appeal to the masses of workers to act quickly, to organize immediately, to realize all the benefits and rights to which you are entitled through organization under the provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

"The American Federation of Labor will assist you, will cooperate with you and will do everything possible for you to be identified with bona fide, independent trade unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor."

Lewis and Sherman Condemn Finance Corporation's Low Relief-Work Wages

Burlington, Iowa.—The fortieth annual convention of the Iowa State Federation of Labor here re-elected J. C. Sherman and M. H. Sherman as secretary-treasurer for the two-year term. Lewis has held the office of president since 1921, and Sherman has been secretary-treasurer since 1925.

Both Lewis and Sherman made bitter attacks on the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, charging a "conspiracy" between the corporation and captains of industry "to beat down wage scales in Iowa."

"We are opposed to paying our people in wholly bona after they have done a full day's work and would not need the assistance of any old maids and flappers to show our wives how to do shopping bargains," Lewis said.

He said that Reconstruction Finance Corporation relief committees throughout Iowa are not paying the prevailing wage rates prescribed by law.

Secretary Sherman condemned the policy of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation State Committee, headed by E. H. Mulock, for its policy of paying for relief work in groceries instead of money. He said he had taken up the matter with the committee, but got no satisfaction.

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Roosevelt's New Deal for Labor

When President Roosevelt signed the Industrial Recovery Act he made a statement outlining his policy for its administration. On the question of wages the President said:

"In my inaugural I laid down the simple proposition that nobody is going to starve in this country.

"It seems to me to be equally plain that no business which depends for existence on paying less than living wages to its workers has any right to continue in business.

"By 'business' I mean the whole of commerce as well as the whole of industry; by workers I mean all workers—the white-collar class as well as the man in overalls; and by living wages I mean more than a bare subsistence level—I mean the wages of decent living.

"Throughout industry the change from starvation wages and starvation employment to living wages and sustained employment can, in large part, be made by an industrial covenant to which all employers shall subscribe."

Organized labor congratulates the President on his bold and statesmanlike declaration.

A persistent fight for decent wages has characterized the struggles of the labor movement from its inception. The labor movement has always held that employers who refuse to pay living wages should be regarded as industrial outlaws unworthy of the respect of any patriotic citizen. By means of trade unions the wage standards for millions of our working men and women have been held above the starvation pay imposed upon the unorganized workers by the anti-union industrial and commercial pirates who have reduced the pay of their employes far below the decent living standards sanctioned by the unions.

Labor is more than glad to have its underlying principle of decent living wages upheld by the President and backed by the Industrial Recovery Act.

A Deserved Rebuke

The underlying purpose of the Industrial Recovery Law and the Roosevelt Administration is to increase wages, reduce hours of labor, provide work and pay envelopes for millions of the jobless, and thus improve business conditions.

Coincident with the enactment of the law the railway executives, headed by W. F. Thiehoff of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, demanded an additional cut of 12½ per cent in basic rates of pay for railroad employes. Plus the 10 per cent cut accepted by the employes eighteen months ago, this would have brought the slash up to 22½ per cent.

The railway executives figured that the additional wage slash would net millions of dollars a year for the coupon clippers and dividend receivers whose maximum unearned income has become a bit shaky because of the near bankruptcy of the railroads brought about mainly by the inefficiency of the very executives who sought to pilfer the pockets of the railway employes so that the owners of capital may profit thereby.

The wage-cutting policy inaugurated by the railway executives was emphatically against the industrial recovery program sponsored by President Roosevelt and given legal status by the industrial recovery law. Joseph B. Eastman, Federal Coordinator of Transportation, told the executives this in plain language at a meeting with them in Washington. The executives thereupon agreed to withdraw the demand for the 12½ per cent reduction and let the railway pay question alone for eight months.

Wage cutting is entirely out of place in the present economic plans, tuned to price inflation. With immediate prospects of increased transportation and earnings incident to the larger purchasing power of the masses and the consequent expanding business, the action of the railway executives in their original attempt to sabotage the President's broad industrial recovery plan is incomprehensible. The rebuke administered to them by Mr. Eastman was well deserved.

Their belated statement, on agreeing to withdraw their wage cut demand, that they desired to do nothing to embarrass the administration is not enough of a smoke screen to hide the fact that their wage-slashing proposal was initiated with full knowledge as to the portent and scope of the very administration policy to which they at last gave left-handed approval.

Carnegie Steel Organizes a "Union"

Officials of the Carnegie Steel Company, a subsidiary of the anti-union United States Steel Corporation, are seeking to impose on their employes a company union, evidently devised by the officials of the company to evade the provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act, which recognizes bona fide independent trade unions as the legitimate organizations for bona fide collective bargaining.

The constitution, rules and regulations of the company union were drawn up by company officials and handed down to their employes in regulation dictatorial style. Inspired press accounts of the Carnegie scheme implied that it would be used as a model for other steel corporations seeking to get around the plain mandate of the Recovery Act.

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, called attention to the menace of this procedure in a manifesto addressed to the workers in every industry. He said:

"We warn the workers against company unions. Corporations are now engaged in an effort to develop company unions so that it can be made to appear that substantial collective bargaining agreements have been negotiated between employers and employes' organizations.

"Such action will be a violation of the spirit, if not of the letter of the Act.

"The company unions formed by employers are nothing more than company-controlled instrumentalities through which the corporation negotiates an industrial code and a collective agreement applicable to workers, will itself.

"It is highly unfair and most reprehensible that employers of labor would organize for the purpose of fixing prices and thus enable themselves to enjoy fair profits, and at the same time establish company unions, control workers, dominating the industrial codes and the wages and conditions of employment through their own owned and controlled company unions.

"We appeal to the workers everywhere to join bona fide independent trade unions. Exercise your American right to organize under the provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act. Have nothing whatever to do with company unions. Unite with your fellow workers in bona fide trade unions and through such organizations select men of your own choosing to represent you and to secure for you the maximum amount of benefits to which you are entitled under the provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act."

Mr. Green's warning to the workers is timely. Under the Industrial Recovery Act employers are prohibited from using the company union to club the workers away from bona fide unions with the substantial penalty of $500 for violation of the company union ban.

General Johnson's Timely Warning

Reactionary employers' associations who believe they will be able to ignore the legal rights of labor in framing their codes of fair competition under the Industrial Recovery Act received a severe jolt from Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, Industrial Recovery Administrator, in a statement outlining what the codes must contain.

Section 7 of the Act sets out the rights of employes to organize, crimps the employers' company unions, and provides for maximum hours and minimum pay rates. Representatives of certain employers' organizations, well known for their anti-labor policies, intimated that they would be able to evade these principles and even threatened to lock up their mills as an alternative to recognizing the right of their employes to join bona fide trade unions.

In his statement outlining code procedure, General Johnson said:

"The Act requires that certain provisions found in Subsection (a) of Section 7 shall be included in every code and therefore no application for the approval of any basic code will be received which omits or modifies these mandatory provisions, which are as follows:

"'Every code of fair competition, agreement and license approved, prescribed or issued under this title shall contain the following conditions:

"'(1) That employes shall have the right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, and shall be free from the interference, restraint or coercion of employers of labor or their agents, in the designation of such representatives, or in self-organization or in other concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection;

"'(2) That no employe and no one seeking employment shall be required as a condition of employment to join any company union or to refrain from joining, organizing or assisting a labor organization of his own choosing; and

"'(3) That employers shall comply with the maximum hours of labor, minimum rates of pay, maximum machine-load of employes and other conditions of employment, approved or prescribed by the President.'"

General Johnson's language is plain. The dumbest and blindest anti-union employer can understand it. The right of the workers to organize and bargain collectively is guaranteed. Company union coercion is prohibited. Wages and hours approved by the President must be complied with.

It is to be hoped that employers who see red when trade unions are mentioned will recognize the new conditions without extreme compulsion and remove the barriers they have hitherto erected to prevent their employes from exercising the right to organize in trade unions for the benefit of themselves and their families and for the good of our entire people of whom the workers form the major part.

R. F. C. Sweatshop Wages

Complaints against the low-wage policy of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation continue to accumulate. The general charge is that in making advances from Federal funds to finance work projects for the relief of unemployment the R. F. C. fixes wage rates far below those required to meet accepted decent living standards.

J. C. Lewis, president of the Iowa State Federation of Labor, says R. F. C. relief committees in that State do not pay the prevailing wage rates prescribed by law. Zach Taylor, Commissioner of Streets and Sewers in Chattanooga, Tenn., protests against the reduction of the R. F. C. rate for street work from $1.85 to $1.25 and then to $1 a day with only three days' work a week permitted. He claims the workers cannot buy a living with the decreased wages.

The following Associated Press dispatch throws additional light on the R. F. C. wage-rate policy:

"Lawrenceburg, Tenn.—Forty-five men employed on a Reconstruction Finance Corporation relief project here refused to go to work today unless their wages were raised to $1.25 a day.

"The men left their jobs yesterday, explaining their action as a protest against the wage scale. Wages on R. F. C. projects in Tennessee recently were cut to $1 a day, but following a workers' strike at Memphis the rate was increased to $1.25 a day in Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga and Knoxville."

Wages of $1 or $1.25 a day for rock quarry work, street and sewer work, or any other class of work, are a disgrace to American institutions.

The Rip Van Winkle officials of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation should snap out of their prolonged industrial somnolence. The National Industrial Recovery Act, with its policy of higher wages for all industrial workers, is the law of the land. It is the duty of R. F. C. officials to recognize this fact and reconstruct their wage rates on relief work projects in accordance with the principles of the new law.

Minimum Pay and 30-Hour Week on Public Works Urged by Colorado Labor Federation

Convention Says Borrowers of Federal Funds Should Also Apply Government Wages and Hours Standards

Colorado Springs, Colo.—Confronted with wages far below decent living standards and wholesale unemployment throughout industry, the annual convention of the Colorado State Federation of Labor adopted the report of its executive board regarding hours of labor and standards of living on public works by the Federal Government or other political units.

The executive board made the following specific recommendations for all public works projects:

1. The contract method should be abolished and the work should be done by direct Government management including direct employment of labor and purchase of materials.

2. The Federal Government should determine minimum income necessary for comfortable living and should pay all workers directly employed and apply the same standards to each industry in which the Government purchases materials and in which the Reconstruction Finance Corporation makes loans for self-liquidating projects or other forms of financial relief, which standards should be made the basis for fixing pay and hours for all workers directly or indirectly employed on Government construction work.

3. Establish the six-hour day and five-day week without lowering the living standards determined by the Government.

4. Insert in all contracts for Government construction the proviso that employes making the materials shall be paid the wages and work the number of hours determined by the Government.

5. That land, minerals, insurance companies, building and loan associations and other concerns borrowing money from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation shall be required to adopt and maintain the wage and salary standards and hours per day and per week set up by the Government in various fields of work covered by the borrowers.

"The immediate object of our recommendation," the executive board said, "is to create and divide work, provide fixed living incomes for such work, and to build up buying power in our industries, as a first step in the process of establishing national and individual security."

New Wage Law for Women and Minors Sought in Massachusetts; Jail for Violators

Boston, Mass.—The House Committee on Rules reported favorably a minimum wage bill for women and minors under which employers who pay starvation wages would be severely penalized.

The present Massachusetts minimum wage law undertakes to enforce the decrees of the State minimum wage board by publishing in the newspapers the names of employers who refuse to comply with the wage standards set up by the board.

The proposed law declares it to be against public policy for any employer to employ any woman or minor in an occupation in Massachusetts "at an oppressive and unreasonable wage," which is defined at a wage less than the fair and reasonable value of the services given and less than an amount sufficient to meet the costs of living according to the necessities of health. The measure voids all contracts and agreements calling for an unreasonable wage.

Minimum wage standards would be established by the State Minimum Wage Commission. Employers violating the decrees issued by the Commission would be subject to a fine of from $50 to $200 or imprisonment for from 10 to 90 days. Each week in which the employer failed to pay the proper wage would constitute a separate violation, and the payment of the illegal low wage by the individual employes would also be deemed a violation of the proposed law.

Speaker of the House Leverett Saltonstall said the enactment of the bill into law is imperative in order to protect Massachusetts from the wage-dumping ground for unscrupulous employers who have been outlawed from New York and New Hampshire by recent minimum wage laws with mandatory provisions for their enforcement.

Millions of Jobs for the Unemployed Created by American Public Highways

(Continued from Page 1)

6,000,000 farms, with a total normal annual production of about $12,000,000,000. Much of the movement of farm products is now by motor. Thus, in 1921, over 21,000,000 head of livestock were brought to market by truck. Practically all of the rural mail is carried by motor vehicle.

"Included in the vast movement of vehicles over our public roads and streets are about 25,000 school buses. In the school year 1919-1920, 250,000 pupils were transported to rural schools. For the year 1929-30 the number had increased to 1,302,000.

Excess Productive Capacity

"One of the statements that has received widespread circulation is that our productive capacity is now such that even though business were resumed on a normal scale it would be impossible to put back into industry more than a reasonable percentage of those now unemployed. There is no great reason to doubt this statement, but if it be true all the real reasons are generally overlooked.

Employment in Road Construction

"A large part of the present unemployment and lack of purchasing power has been caused by the tremendous decrease in construction. Highway construction is the one activity that so far has held up to about the previous level, and through the efforts to extend employment the number of men engaged in this work, directly and indirectly, has been increased in proportion to outlay."

CHAS. STELZE RECEIVES DOCTOR OF LAWS DEGREE

Cumberland University Bestows Signal Honor on Minister and Sociologist Who Belongs to the Machinists' Union.

New York.—Charles Stelze, a member of Local 434, International Association of Machinists, was recently given the degree of doctor of laws by Cumberland University in Tennessee, of which Secretary of State Cordell Hull is a graduate and trustee.

Dr. Stelze served his apprenticeship with R. Hoe & Company of this city, working for several years as a journeyman machinist. Although he quit working at the machinist's trade long ago, he has retained his active membership in the Machinists' Union. After leaving his machinist's job he was ordained a minister of the Presbyterian church and became prominent as a Christian sociologist.

For many years Dr. Stelze was a contributor to the labor papers and for nearly ten years he syndicated a weekly article on economic questions which was published in a large number of labor journals.

He inaugurated the plan of sending fraternal delegates from ministers' associations to central labor bodies so that they might become thoroughly acquainted with the problems of organized labor and discuss them intelligently.

In addition, he was instrumental in establishing Labor Sunday, which is observed by the churches of America on the Sunday preceding Labor Day.

For many years he was the fraternal delegate from the Presbyterian Department of Church and Labor to the conventions of the American Federation of Labor, which he addressed at the invitation of the late President Samuel Gompers.

Dr. Stelze gave the commencement address at Cumberland University, speaking on "The Economic Basis of World Relationships." He held that the economic life in abundance for every person is the sole basis on which world peace can be guaranteed.

ILLINOIS LABOR PARLEY SUPPORTS RECOVERY ACT

Effective Union Organization Urged To Secure Benefits for Workers

Rockford, Ill.—Representatives of union labor from five major northern Illinois cities, including Chicago, met here and pledged support to the State Federation and to the American Federation of Labor in securing State and Federal labor legislation. They endorsed the National Industrial Recovery Act.

Ralph B. Green, Painters' delegate to the Chicago Federation of Labor and a member of its speakers' bureau, addressed the meeting and urged the special need of effective labor organization to meet the organized employers on a common basis. Labor in Illinois has its full share of benefits from the new industrial law, he declared, but this need, he pointed out:

"Present wages are pitiful. The average wage of the American baker is $12.37 a week. A Chicago carpenters' union has 1,100 members and only 9 per cent have worked as much as six months in the past two years."

RABBI SCORES SWEATSHOP WAGES IN ST. LOUIS, MO.

St. Louis, Mo.—Sweatshop conditions imposed on St. Louis garment workers were exposed by Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman, chairman of the St. Louis Social Justice Commission, who said that, according to his information, employes can be had the average year on good silk dresses $5 to $8 for a week's work, with few reaching $9.

He said many city employers really desire to pay higher wages, but are compelled by unscrupulous unorganized manufacturers who in their zeal for maximum profit have set up quotas to some extent by local chambers of commerce give them tax exemption, free land and other handouts so that local landlords and merchants may swipe the pay envelopes of the sweated workers, with wages in many places as low as from $1.75 to $3 per week.

Rabbi Isserman declared the sweatshop problem is national in its scope and declared that "minimum wage legislation is imperative if American living standards are to be maintained."

Antiunion Textbooks Barred From Hannibal High School

Hannibal, Mo.—The geometry published by the anti-union Ginn Company and the Public Ledger Company of Philadelphia will soon be barred from the public schools of Hannibal.

When the label committee of the Hannibal Trades and Labor Assembly and the Hannibal Typographical Union was informed by Philadelphia Typographical Union that the Winston concern had locked out its union employes and expressed the determination to operate a scab concern, the committee, through J. H. Abrams, secretary of Typographical Union No. 174, urged the Board of Education to stop purchasing Winston's textbooks.

E. T. Miller, superintendent of schools, informed Mr. Abrams that only one of the books, Plane Geometry, was used in the high school, and that the book would be displaced at the end of the present school year.

Portland Garment Workers Get Increase in Wage Scale

Portland, Ore.—Union garment workers in Portland are recovering some of the $6 per week wage cut imposed during the last two years, according to a report by Mrs. L. Gee of the Union Label Trades Section of Oregon Labor Press. The Hirsch-Weis Manufacturing Company gave a voluntary increase of 5 per cent in the pants department of their factories and the Cameo Shirt Manufacturing Company increased the piece-work price of the whole establishment.

All the members of the Garment Workers' Union are at work and a number of new applications are in for membership.

$2.50 for 7-Day Week Paid Waitresses in Cincinnati

Cincinnati, Ohio.—Astounding revelations regarding low wages paid waitresses have been made in a report to the Central Labor Council by Waitresses' Union No. 278.

The report stated that in the Canary Cottage restaurant waitresses work 7 days a day and seven days a week for $2.50 per week and must furnish their own uniforms. Waitresses in the Lunch Grotto restaurant receive $3 per week for 7 days a day and purchase and launder their own uniforms.

Kiefer's Restaurant is being picketed by members of Waitresses' Local No. 278 and Cooks' Local No. 177. The concern is on the Central Labor Council's "We don't patronize" list. Violet Gorbet is secretary of the Waitresses' Union, and Gustave Lack secretary of the Cooks' Union.

Lumber Bosses Want Johnson to Recognize Four L Company Union as Bona Fide Labor Organization Under Industrial Recovery Act

(Continued from Page 1)

nates plan to fix both prices and wages through their own Four L association and drive their high price standards and low wage levels down the throat of General Johnson at Washington under the sarred cloak of labor, wages and prices section of the Industrial Recovery act.

John McGivney, editor of the Tacoma Labor Advocate, expresses regret that the lumber industry employers still maintain their opposition to the real collective bargaining through bona fide unions, and has this to say regarding their conspiracy against genuine unions:

"The Four L is an association of employers and employes formed by the former with the attempt to eliminate completely any semblance of a bona fide organization of labor in industry. To pretend that it is any form of a labor union not the brightest, palms in the art of camouflage would persuade any intelligent mind.

"Labor knows only too well to what an extent a boss-governed legion like the Four L can jeopardize all American standards of living for this specious camouflage to get by without protest. Labor will, for labor must, resist to the last any such attempt at industrial feudalism and the reduction of the wage earners in any industry to a condition of the basest serfdom in the name of industrial recovery."

With organized labor in the Northwest unanimously lined up against them, it doesn't look so bright for the Four L conspirators against the labor provisions of the Industrial Recovery Act.

Jobless Must Not Be Degraded by Relief Bureau Inquisitions, Garvey Declares

Rhode Island Labor Federation Sets Up Committees To Protect Destitute Unemployed from Humiliation

Providence, R. I.—James Garvey, president of the Rhode Island State Federation of Labor, in a statement on the necessity of maintaining the morale of the workless during the depression, emphatically condemned the degrading microscopic examination of the lives of the unemployed who are compelled to apply for relief.

Jobless Menace Economic System

"The jobless will be with us in great number until there is a radical reduction in the hours of labor and a tremendous increase in the mass purchasing power of the people," he said.

"Both shorter hours and higher wages are essential to the adjustment of the balances of our vast and complicated system of production and distribution, to assure its functioning with reasonable degree of stability and of equity.

"Unless progress can be made in this direction, the present economic system is liable to an undue crash, in which case the view thought of as the aftermath causes the strongest to tremble."

Unions and the Unemployed

Pointing out that the labor movement is vigorously opposed to developing a sense of humiliation and inferiority among the unfortunate jobless, Mr. Garvey explained what the trade unions have done to prevent this demoralization.

"The unions," he said, "have shared the work by arranging shorter hours and have assessed the regularly employed to assist the unemployed. They have kept meeting halls open, where card and checker games and such-like harmless pastimes might be found, as well as the trade periodicals and other literature—the 'God-send to the unemployed, weary of roaming the street, and a great boon to the industrially dead.

"Needless to add, the unions have tried to maintain decent wage rates and working conditions, and to oppose sweatshop conditions.

"By various other helpful means, they have been helping to keep members off relief rolls. But, like every other activity, the ravages of the depression, by the long, cruel depression until some members have been forced as a last resort, to apply for temporary relief.

Humiliating Inquisitions

"Meantime, organized labor is alert to see that they are not put through humiliating inquisitions by high-powered high-hat, high-salaried inquisitors, to wring from them their very heart's secrets; that they are not compelled to sacrifice their self-respect before being granted a morsel to keep body and soul together. A State Labor Committee on Relief Cases has been set up, and Central Labor committees to co-operate with this committee are being formed in the cities throughout the State.

"Labor is prepared to go to the front if necessary, in the fight against demoralization of the workers, regardless of the guise under which demoralization of the spirit of organized labor is sought. For that, applicants for aid are treated as human beings in distress and no family of their own have a right to be treated in a civilized society.

Feed Without Demoralization

"Out of the millions appropriated by our generous citizens for relief, and the millions donated by the public-spirited persons to charities, a hungry man's family should not be entitled to get anything to eat, it would seem, without a demoralizing inquiry into his history.

"We see that the well-being of the hard-pressed jobless individual may receive the consideration that is still more important, to see that the morale of the people may be nowise disrupted during this extremely critical period in the history of our Nation, is the aim of organized labor in the deplorable unemployment situation in Rhode Island."

Unemployed Seamen Increase; Enactment Of King-Dies Bill Would Give Them Jobs

New York.—The urgent necessity for the speedy enactment of the King-Dies bill by the United States Congress at Washington is realized by every thirty-eighth annual report of the Seamen's Church Institute here, which reveals widespread distress among seamen resulting from wholesale unemployment. During the past year the Institute spent with $35,409 in 1929.

"We have tried to meet the distressing situation," Rev. Archibald R. Mansfield, superintendent of the institution, said, "by providing 400 relief lodgings daily at the reduced rate of 20 cents and two meals a day at the reduced rate of 10 cents each. For many months we have been furnishing from 1,200 to 1,500 such meals a day at less than cost to seamen who can still afford to pay a little. The result of this is that the institute had an operating deficit for 1932 of $69,176.

"For wholly destitute seamen we have been providing free board and lodging. During 1932 $1,317 free lodgings and 182,750 free meals were so furnished. For the first time in their five large institutions of New York men have been compelled to accept the charity thus tendered them."

The report pointed out that the institute's free employment bureau was able to supply only 1,455 positions, afloat or ashore, for seamen, as compared with 8,637 in 1929, before the slump in shipping.

If the seamen's bill, sponsored in the Senate by Senator King and filed in the House by Representative Dies of Texas, were passed by Congress, all these jobless seamen would go to work at their trade.

American ship owners are now permitted by law to have one-third of their crews made up of alien seamen, paid a statute compelling thousands of American seamen to pound the pavements looking for work, while the American merchant marine, subsidized by millions of dollars taken from the taxpayers, operates with an army of Chinese coolies and other low-wage foreign labor.

The King-Dies bill provides that the crews of American ships shall not contain aliens inadmissible either under the alien exclusion or the immigration law. Its enactment would transfer thousands of the alien seamen from charity relief lists to the payroll of subsidized American ships, where they belong.

Minimum Wage for Women and Minors Held Necessary by Textile Union Official

Employers of women and children should be compelled by law to pay them decent wages, declared Frank J. Gorman, vice president of the United Textile Workers of America, in a statement favoring the enactment of minimum wage legislation in Rhode Island.

Under the proposed law, minimum rates would be set up by a State Board of Labor and Industry.

Mr. Gorman claimed the mandatory law was necessary to safeguard the living standards of women and minors, to abolish unfair competitors, and to prevent the State from subsidizing with the increasing number of women workers who have been forced on charity relief in order that they may live.

"It is the barnacle of unfair competition that is crushing not only labor, but industry and profits," he said. "The same men who have their heads on the necks of the workers have their knives at the throat of their fellow employers who are striving to regain their standing in the business world.

Low Wages in Textile Industry

"In these days when we are told that the payment of low wages to women and girls employed in our factories, department stores, and other places of piece-work price in the pants department of the factories of the Campbell Manufacturing Company increased the piece-work price of the whole establishment.

All the members of the Garment Workers' Union are at work and a number of new applications are in for membership.

"In the textile industry, weavers who have always been considered the highest paid workers are down to $15. Girls and women in the spinning, carding, combing and in bleacheries are down to $10 a week and in some cases lower, working 54 hours and kept in the mill 55 hours per week. Wages are also based on averages. We have thousands of women receiving less than $15.

Employes Workers on Charity Relief

"The men in some of our mills have been beaten down to the same level in this way of wage and hour exploitation. The employers who believe they are successful because they are able to inflict these starvation wages will soon find out that underpaying and living wages they will pay increased taxes in order that the State can take care of these industrial parasites.

"In other words, the State will be compelled to subsidize and supplement the wages paid by industry and trade in order that the workers may secure the necessaries of life. We have that condition today. Employed workers are forced to seek relief from the towns, cities, and State."

Government Regulation Necessary

There was a time, Mr. Gorman concluded, when employers resented any interference or regulation from without. They regarded it as a right to exercise their own business methods to the limit.

"We still have a few who maintain this attitude, but in the majority of cases it has been proved a failure, proved a boomerang, and there is a widespread demand for Government regulation to save industry.

"Commodity prices and raw material are down to the bedrock, and unless values are restored business will not revive.

"There are several things government can do to assist in the restoration of normal conditions. One of them is the adoption of minimum wage legislation for women and minors."

OLD-AGE PENSIONS, JOB INSURANCE, LOSE IN OHIO

Columbus, Ohio.—Unemployment insurance and old-age pension legislation for Ohio were killed by the reactionary Senate of the Legislature.

Both measures were passed by the House of Representatives. The Senate defeated the insurance bill as it passed the House, and riddled the old-age pension bill with so many opposition amendments that the House proponents of bona fide pensions refused to adopt the Senate monstrosity.

The old-age pension bill was introduced in the Legislature by initiative petitions signed by the Ohio Old Age Pension Conference, the Ohio State Federation of Labor, and the Ohio Fraternal Order of Eagles.

As soon as the Senate acted unfavorably on the measures, these organizations began the circulation of petitions to submit the bill directly to a vote of the citizens of the State.

Senator Horace S. Keifer introduced the unemployment insurance bill in the House of Representatives and led the fight for the adoption of that measure, and the old-age pension bill. The opposition to old-age pensions in the Senate was under the leadership of Senator Marshall of Cleveland.